# **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



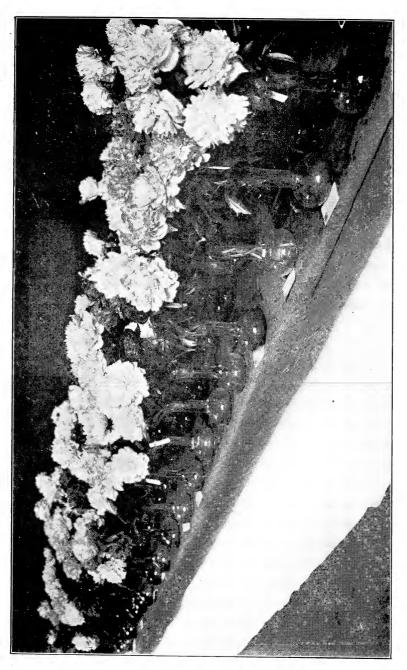
62,39 MAR 6 1916

IRIS
PEONIES
PHLOX



FALL 1915 SPRING 1916





A portion of our exhibit at the Annual Exhibition of the American Peony Society, Boston, June 19-20, 1915



### **PEONIES**

Words cannot describe the beauty of the modern Peony. Only those who have seen the recent introductions have any conception of its charms, with flowers four to eight inches in diameter, on long stiff stems, in the grestest possible variety of color and form, many of them equal to the rose or carnation in delicious fragrance. Hardy as an oak, and once planted in good soil, they require practically no attention. With no diseases or insect pests, no roots to take up each fall and plant in the spring, when once planted all is done, each year adding to the size and beauty. "Massive, without being coarse fragrant, without being pungent; grand, without being gaudy; various in form and color, beyond the possibility of being successfully superseded, it stands in the front rank of hardy flowers."

### Planting and Cultivation

While the peony will grow and flower under conditions which would be fatal to most plants, it will freely respond to liberal treatment, and if the best flowers are wanted, it will pay to plant in well prepared ground and keep them well cultivated and enriched. If it can be obtained, use a liberal quantity of well rotted stable manure, thoroughly mixing it with the soil. Never allow fresh manure to come in contact with the roots, although it may be put on top

of the ground as a mulch. Ground bone and wood ashes are excellent. A commercial fertilizer strong in potash is good.

Plant three feet apart, with the eyes about three inches under ground. Too deep planting will cause shy flowering.

### Time to Plant

Peonies may be planted in the fall any time after the first of September until the ground freezes, or early in the spring, although the best time is during September, since they then have time to form new roots and get a good hold of the soil before winter. In this way they should flower the next year, while those planted late in the fall or in the spring, if they flower at all, will give small and inferior blooms.

### Do Not Expect Too Much at First

Peonies when transplanted do not fully recover and produce typical flowers until the second or third year.

If large flowers are wanted, pick off all but the central bud on each stem; before and during the flowering season be sure that they have an abundance of water. If the flowers are cut before they are opened and put in water in the house, they will be larger and brighter colored and keep longer than if allowed to open in the sun. Make a new cut on the stem and give fresh water every day.

When cutting flowers, especially from young plants, do not cut too near the ground but leave as much foliage as possible, because the leaves are necessary for root growth. The leaves gather certain gases from the air, while the roots take up plant food from the soil in the form of salts, and the assimilating is done by the leaves. Leaves are as necessary to plant life as lungs are to animal life.

### Do not Plant too Deep

We are often asked "Why don't my peonies bloom?" Peonies planted in poor soil, together with a great number of trees, shrubs and bedding plants, all crowded into a small space, find it impossible to obtain sufficient food and water. With proper planting, not too deep, plenty of room, plenty of fertilizing material, and sufficient water, they should show their appreciation and reward you with an abundance of bloom.

### Varieties-True to Name

Instead of a long list of varieties, regardless of quality it is our aim to offer the best of different colors and types covering the flowering season from the earliest to the latest.

We spare no effort to keep our peonies healthy and true to name. At the exhibition of the American Peony Society held in Boston June 19-20, we saw a peony marked "Eugene Verdier" and another "Asa Gray" which resembled those varieties about as much as a wheelbarrow does a high grade automobile. We endeavor to avoid such errors.

### **Prices**

We have put our prices as low as is consistent with good stock true to name. Not so much depends on what you pay as on what you get.

Our interest doesn't end when we make a sale. We believe that a satisfied customer is our best advertisement and we are never satisfied until our patrons are more than satisfied.

### Wellesley Nurseries

GEORGE N. SMITH.

Wellesley Hills, Mass., July, 1915.

# TYPES OF PEONIES AS CLASSIFIED BY THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

**SINGLE.** Those with a single row of wide guards, and a center of yellow pollen-bearing stamens.

**JAPANESE.** These have wide guards the same as the singles, but with the stamens and anthers greatly enlarged into narrow, thick petaloids of various colors tipped with vestiges of the yellow anthers without pollen.

**ANEMONE.** A step further in the process of doubling with the stamens all transformed into short narrow petals, forming a round cushion in the center of the flower.

**SEMI-DOUBLE.** Those with several rows of wide petals, and a center of stamens, and partially transformed petaloids. Many of the reds are of this type.

**CROWN.** In this type wide petals are developed in the center of the flower, forming a high crown with the narrow, short petals forming a ring or collar around it. Often the crown and guards are one color, and the collar another or lighter shade.

**BOMB.** The next step in which all the center petals are uniformly wide approaching the guards, but distinctly differentiated from them, forming a globe-shaped center without collar or crown.

**SEMI-ROSE.** Flowers in which the petals are all uniformly wide, but are loosely built, with a few pollenbearing stamens visible or nearly concealed.

ROSE. The process of doubling is completed, all stamens fully transformed into evenly arranged wide petaloids, similar to the guards, forming a perfect rose-shaped bloom.

### Time of Blooming

The terms early, midseason and late being perhaps somewhat indefinite we give below a condensed record of the dates on which some of our varieties bloomed this year. They will vary a day or two from year to year, for example, this year Grandiflora Nivea was the first to open whereas it usually follows Umbellata Rosea and Edulis Superba.

- June 10. Grandiflora Nivea Plena
- June 11. Umbellata Rosea
- June 13. Modeste Guerin, Edulis Superba, Marie Stuart
- June 14. Madame de Verneville, Duchesse de Ne-Mours, Jeanne d'Arc, Madame Ducel, Festiva Maxima.
- June 15. Princess Beatrice, Monsieur Jules Elie, Boule de Neige.
- June 16. Madame Calot, Floral Treasure, Adolph Rosseau, Gloire de Charles Gombault, Canai.
- June 17. Madame Boulanger, Madame Bucquet, Marguerite Gerard, Karl Rosenfield, Therese, Felix, Crousse, Alsace Loraine, Berlioz, Marie Jaquin, Duc de Wellington, Delachei.
- June 18. Augustin d'Hour, Le Cygne, De Candolle, Nigricans, Madame Emile Lemoine.
- June 19. Madame Geissler, Asa Gray, Sarah Bernhardt.
- June 20. Madame de Galhau, Venus, Walter Faxon, Couronne d'Or.

- June 21. Baroness Schroeder, Livingstone, Claire Dubois, Madame Jules Dessert.
  - June 22. Albert Crousse, Madame Augusta Dessert.
- June 23. Marie Lemoine, Eugene Verdier, Auguste Villaume, La France.
- June 24. Tourangelle, Humei, Madame Emile Galle, La Tendresse, Madame Lebon.
  - June 25. Comte de Nanteuil, Norfolk.
- June 26. R. P. Whitfield, Milton Hill, Mireille, Soulange.
  - June 27. Henry Woodward, Dorchester.
  - June 29. Rubra Superba.

### SUCH LETTERS AS THIS MAKE LIFE WORTH LIVING.

My Dear Mr. Smith;---

The Iris blossoms you sent us were beautiful. I only wish my mother might have seen them but she was away at the time . . . . We enjoyed them every day until they were gone and they lasted a long time. The house was filled with their fragrance. Thanking you for giving us so much pleasure.

Very sincerely yours,

Newton Highlands, July 5, 1915.

## PRICE LIST

ADOLPHE ROUSSEAU (Dessert and Mechin, 1890).  Large semi-double; purplish garnet. Tall grower, free bloomer. Early
<b>ALBERT CROUSSE</b> (Crousse 1893). Very large flat bomb; fresh pink. Very desirable. Late 1.50
ASA GRAY (Crousse, 1886). Pale lilac sprinkled with minute dots of deeper lilac. Large rose shape; very fragrant; good height and habit. Midseason 1.50
AUGUSTE VILLAUME (Crousse 1895). Dark violet rose. Extra large, compact; tall, strong growth. Very late
AUGUSTIN D'HOUR (Calot 1867). Large bomb; brilliant red. Extra. Midseason. Sold as Marechal MacMahon
AVALANCHE (Crousse 1886). Large compact crown; cream white collar, center tinted lilac white, center petals delicately edged with carmine. Late
BARONESS SCHROEDER. (Kelway 1889). Very large, globular, rose type. Flesh-white fading to milk-white. Fragrance XX. Tall, strong growth, very free bloomer. Considered one of the finest Peonies grown. Midseason
<b>BERLIOZ</b> (Crousse 1886). Large compact rose type; light carmine rose, tipped silver. Late midseason50
BOULE de NEIGE (Calot 1862). Semi-rose type; large and compact, milk white flecked crimson. Free bloomer. Farly midseason.

CANARI (Guerin 1861). Medium sized bomb; guards
flesh white; center amber white. Fragrance XX. Late .35
CLAIRE DUBOIS (Crousse 1886). Very large
globular rose type. Uniform color clear deep violet-rose
tipped silvery white. Erect, tall, strong grower. Late.
Extra good 1.50
COMTE de NANTEUIL (Calot 1858). Large
globular bomb; violet rose, center clear salmon pink.
Fragrance XXX. Strong grower, free bloomer. Mid-
season
COURONNE d'OR (Calot 1873). Semi-rose type. This
is the famous Crown of Gold. Immense ball shaped
bloom. Solid and compact from edge to center. Snow-
white, reflecting golden-yellow stamens that show through
the petals when looking at the flower from the side. These
stamens light up the whole flower with a glow that is
simply indescribable and which suggests the name "Crown
of Gold." Delicate carmine penciling on edges of a few
central petals. One of the very choicest and best Peonies
in cultivation. Late midseason
DE CANDOLLE (Crousse 1880). Large rose type;
bright lilac purple. Strong grower, free bloomer. Very
attractive. Late midseason
DELACHEI (Delache 1856). Large rose type; full
rich dark crimson slightly tipped silver; free bloomer.
One of the best dark reds. Late midseason50
DUCHESSE de NEMOURS (Calot 1856). Crown
type; superb, cup-shaped, sulphur-white flowers with
greenish reflex that lights up the entire flower; gradually
changes to a pure snow-white without spot or blemish.
Fragrant. Early

<b>DUC DE WELLINGTON</b> (Calot 1859). Large bomb; white with sulphur center. Vigorous grower, free bloomer. Fragrance XX. Late
<b>EDULIS SUPERBA</b> (Lemon 1824). Large loose flat crown; bright mauve pink with a few narrow lilac petals at collar. Odor pleasant. Flowers early and lasts well50
<b>EUGENE VERDIER</b> (Calot 1864). Very large, compact, typical rose type. Pale hydrangea-pink, outer guard petals lilac-white. Fragrant. Very erect, rather dwarf habit, with extra-strong stems, free bloomer 1.50
<b>FELIX CROUSSE</b> (Crousse 1881). Very brilliant red. Medium to large globular, typical bomb shape; fragrant; strong growth. Midseason
<b>FESTIVA MAXIMA</b> (Miellez 1851). Very large, often 7 to 8 inches. Rose type, pure white, center usually flecked with crimson. Strong vigorous grower. The most popular white. Fragrance XXX. Early
FLORAL TREASURE (Rosenfield 1900). Rose type. Showy pale lilac rose. Free bloomer in clusters. Good. Midseason
GLOIRE DE CHARLES COMBAULT (Combault, 1866). Medium size, deep globular crown. Guards and crown light rose; collar of narrow cream-white petals widening toward the center. Very long, strong stems; free bloomer. Midseason. Extra 2.00
GRANDIFLORA NIVEA PLENA (Lemon 1824). Large globular, rose type. Guards milk white, center delicately shaded salmon and sulphur. Although ninety years old, it holds its place among the best and the true stock is scarce. Very early

<b>HUMEI</b> (Anderson 1810). Large, compact, globular rose type. Cherry-pink, with silver tips. Cinnamon fragrance. Very late
JEANNE D'ARC (Calot 1858). Large, bomb type. Guards and center pale lilac rose, collar cream white shaded with sulphur. Midseason
<b>KARL ROSENFIELD</b> (Rosenfield 1908). Very large, globular, compact semi-rose type. Dark crimson. Very strong, tall, compact grower and free bloomer. Midseason. A very brilliant and striking variety 5.00
LA FRANCE (Lemoine 1901). Very large perfect rose type. Soft apple blossom pink, with rose reflex. Distinct and beautiful. Very rare. Midseason to late 10.00
LA TENDRESSE (Crousse 1896). Large, compact, flat rose type. Uniform milk-white, guards slightly splashed and center flecked with crimson. Fragrance X. Tall, strong, very free bloomer. Early. Extra good 2.00
LA TULIPE (Calot 1872). Large semi-rose type; delicate blush white shading to ivory white, outer guard petals striped crimson. Fragrant, strong grower. Midseason
LA SUBLIME (Parmentier 1850). Large semi-rose type. Dark crimson. Growth strong and healthy. Blooming habit free. Landscape variety. Comes single the first year or two. Midseason
L'ECLATANTE (Calot 1860). Bomb type; flowers very double and full; color deep, velvety-crimson.

LIVINGSTONE (Crousse 1879). Very large compact semi-rose type. Pale lilac rose with silver tip. Center petals flecked with carmine. Strong, vigorous, fairly upright grower. Free bloomer in clusters. Late 1.00
LOUIS VAN HOUTTE (Delache 1854). Dark crimson. Large semi-rose type; compact; fragrant; medium height. Late
MADAME BOULANGER (Crousse 1886). Rose-type; extra large full bloom, glossy soft rose shading to lilac bordered silvery flesh; exceedingly free bloomer with remarkable lasting qualities. All who see it insist on having it. Late. A grand Peony 1.50
MADAME BUCQUET (Dessert 1888). Large semirose type; velvety crimson, rich and magnificent. Free bloomer. Midseason. One of the best dark reds75
MADAME CALOT (Miellez 1856). Very large, rose type. Pale hydrangea-pink, center shaded darker; collar tinted silver. Fragrance XX. Tall, strong grower, free bloomer. Early
MADAME de GALHAU (Crousse 1883). Very large globular rose type; soft, glossy, flesh pink. A superb variety and free bloomer. Late
MADAME de VERNEVILLE (Crousse 1885). Large full bomb; guard petals pure white, center blush fading to white, prominent carmine flecks. Extra early

round ball. Petals somewhat incurved like a chrysan- themum. Light mauve rose with silvery reflex. Size large. Odor pleasant. Foliage very large dark green. Indispensable. Midseason
MADAME EMILE GALLE (Crousse 1881). Rose type. Large cup shape; delicate sea-shell pink with touches of heliotrope and lavender. A very attractive variety. Extra choice. Late
MADAME EMILE LEMOINE (Lemoine 1899). Large, globular compact rose type, soft glossy white overlaid with a sheen of satiny pink. Medium height. Midseason
MADAME GEISSLER (Crousse 1880). Full double rose type. Color violet rose, tips of petals nearly white giving a beautiful silvery appearance. A giant in size and a strong grower. Fragrance XXX. Midseason. Extra75
MADAME JULES DESSERT. (Dessert 1909). Very large imbricated flower. White, overlaid with clear pink, shaded rose and straw-yellow, with a few carmine stripes. Exquisite shade, a variety of absolute superiority
MADAME LEBON (Calot 1855). Large compact rose type. Cherry pink to aniline red, uniform throughout. Strong grower. Odor pleasant. Good variety. Late
MARECHAL VAILLANT (Calot 1867). Very large compact typical rose bloom. Mauve pink. Good variety. Very late

MADAME DUCEL (Mechin 1880). Bomb type, a big

MARGUERITE GERARD (Crousse 1892). Very large semi-rose type; pale hydrangea pink, changing to nearly white. Late
MARIE LEMOINE (Calot 1869). Large, very compact rose type. Pure white, with cream-white center occasional carmine tip. Fragrant. Medium height, extra-strong stem. Very late. Extra good 1.00
MARIE STUART (Carlot 1856). Crown type delicate lavender flecked with crimson, fading to pure white. Good. Early
MILTON HILL. (Richardson). True. Very large, globular, compact rose type. Pale, lilac rose. Very distinct, pure color. Strong growth, medium height, late. One of the finest varieties in existence 3.00
MIREILLE (Crousse 1894). Rose type; very large milk white, the latest white to bloom 1.00
MODESTE GUERIN (Guerin 1845). Bomb type lively, bright solferino red. Fragrance XX. Extra strong grower and free bloomer. Midseason
MONSIEUR JULES ELIE (Crousse 1888). Very large bomb, glossy lilac pink shading to deeper at base of petals. Free bloomer. Extra. Midseason 1.50
MONSIEUR MARTIN CAHUZAC (Dessert 1899). Medium-sized, globular, semi-rose type. Very dark purplegarnet, with black reflex. The darkest Peony in the trade. Very strong, vigorous grower, medium height, free bloomer; very dark green foliage with red stems. Early midseason. A very distinct and handsome variety 5.00

NIGRICANS (Unknown). Medium size, semi-rose type. Dark crimson, very deep rich color throughout. Strong, erect grower, free bloomer. Good variety. Midseason to late
<b>PHILOMELE</b> (Calot 1861). Flat crown. Bright violet rose; golden yellow center with tuft of rose, bordered carmine, free bloomer. Midseason 50
PRINCESS BEATRICE (Kelway 1886). Large, compact high crown. Guards and crown light violet-rose, collar cream-white, center flecked crimson. Fragrant. Strong, vigorous, medium height, very free bloomer. Early midseason. Extra good tricolor
RUBRA SUPERBA (Richardson 1871). Large compact informal rose type. Deep crimson. Slow about coming into flower, but a good variety when established. Fragrant. Very late
<b>SARAH BERNHARDT</b> (Lemoine 1906). Flat, compact, semi-rose type. Uniform mauve-rose, silver tipped. Fragrance X. Erect, tall, free bloomer. Late. Extra. 5.00
SOULANGE (Lemoine 1907). Full, globular flowers, with a closely petaled tuft in the center. A rare and indescribable shade of fleshy white, with a salmon center, passing to white shaded soft flesh; a charming color of remarkable freshness
THERESE (Dessert 1904). Rose type; rich violet rose slightly splashed with crimson fading to lilac white in the center. Size enormous. Strong grower and free bloomer. Midseason 6.00

UMBELLATA ROSEA (Unknown). Rose type. Guard petals violet rose, center straw yellow with tufts of whitish pink. Very free bloomer Usually sold as Sarah Bernhardt. Very early
VENUS (Kelway). Very large crown; pale hydrangea pink. Free bloomer. Extra good. Midseason 1.00
VIRGINIE (Calot 1858). Large, semi-rose type. Outer petlas lilac-rose with lighter collar. Fragrant. Free bloomer. Midseason
Early May Flowering Peonies
These are the old-fashioned peonies of our grandparents:
OFFICINALIS ALBA. Opens, soft glossy pink changing to white
OFFICINALIS ROSEA. Full soft pink. Very pretty
OFFICINALIS RUBRA. Brill'ant crimson50
was an analysis of the same

### UNNAMED PEONIES

We have a quantity of peonies without names, among them are some choice ones we bought for named varieties which upon flowering did not prove true to name. Separate colors or, in mixture. \$.25 each; \$2.00 per dozen; \$10.00 per 100.

It is just as easy to grow the best as ordinary varieties. The first cost will soon be forgotten, but the quality remains.

### **GERMAN IRIS**

### (Fleur de Lis)

No flower has more combinations of delicate shades of color than the German Iris. They are perfectly hardy and will thrive in any soil or situation although they prefer a dry, sunny location. They may be planted in spring or fall. We prefer to plant them about the first of September. Our list is not long but select. Prices \$.15 each; \$1.50 per dozen; \$10.00 per 100, except as noted. In the following descriptions S. signifies standards or upright petals, and F. the falls or drooping petals.

**AUREA.** Rich chrome yellow, the finest pure yellow. 24 inch.

**PURPLE PRINCE.** Large and conspicuous petals of dark purple, veined at the base.

**BRIDESMAID.** S. white, shaded silvery lilac. F. Reticulated soft lilac. Very early.

**DARIUS.** S rich canary-yellow; F. lilac, margined white, rich orange beard. One of the most distinct and beautiful. 20 inch.

**DR.** BERNICE. Height, 30 inches. S., coppery bronze; F. rich velvety plum; extra.

EDITH. S. Light plumbago blue. F. purple.

**FLAVE SCENS.** Height, 30 inches. S. and F. a delicate shade of soft yellow; prolific bloomer.

**FLORENTINA.** Height, 18 to 24 inches. White; very early and vigorous; valuable for cut flowers.

**GRACCHUS.** Height, 18 inches. S. clear yellow F. maroon red, reticulated white.

**GYPSY QUEEN.** S. Old gold, shaded smoked-pearl; F. black-maroon, reticulated light yellow; late bloomer. 2 feet.

**HECTOR.** S. soft clouded yellow; F. velvety crimson-black; showy. 30 in.

**HONORABILIS.** S. golden; F. rich mahogany-brown; very effective. 18 in.

JOHAN de WITT. S. Bluish-violet; F. deep violet-purple; veined with white.

JOHN BRIGHT. Height, 18 inches. Reddish violet.

**KHURPUT.** Height, 24 inches. Very large; rich royal purple.

**KHEDIVE.** Height, 30 inches. Beautiful pure lavender with orange crest.

KING EDWARD VII. S. soft rosy-lilac; F. crimson, very free flowering; distinct.

LA TENDRESSE. Ageratum blue throughout. 24 in.

MADAME CHEREAU. White beautifully frilled with wide border of clear blue. One of the best. 32 in.

MRS. G. DARWIN. A lovely new hydrid. White, the upper part of the fall reticulated gold and violet.

MRS. H. DARWIN. New. Pure white. F. slightly reticulated violet at the base; very beautiful and free flowering. 2 ft. Extra.

**PALLIDA DALMATICA.** One of the finest of the Germanica type, of strong, vigorous habit, growing in good soil, three to four ft. high, with exceptionally large, fragrant flowers. S. lavender; F. lavender shaded blue; exquisite in every way and fine for massing. 25c. each; \$2.50 per doz.

QUEEN OF MAY. A lovely soft rose-lilac, almost pink; beautiful. 32 in.

**SHAKESPEARE.** S. straw-yellow, veined with burnt umber; F. deep carmine-violet.

**ST. CLAIR.** S. pale blue; F. deep violet, striped and margined white; very free flowering. Height, 2 ft.

**VAN GEERTI.** S. clouded lavender; F. purple-black, reticulated white. 34 in.

VICTORINE. S. White, mottled blue; F. violet-blue mottled white; beautiful and rare. 27 in. ....... .25

WALNERIANA. S. light blue, flushed bronze; F. pale violet; orange crest. Height, 30 in.

**PUMILA ATROVIOLACEA.** Deep purple. Very early. Height, 5 in.

Mixed varieties, \$8.00 per 100.

### HARDY PHLOX

Perennial Phlox are very desirable summer and fall blooming plants, flowering from the first of July until after severe frosts. By planting Iris, Peonies and Phlox a display of flowers may be had from early in May until cold weather. \$.15 each; \$1.50 per dozen; \$10.00 per 100 except as noted.

COQUELICOT. Brilliant orange scarlet.

**CROSS OF HONOR.** Rosy lilac bordered white in the form of a maltese cross.

ECLAIREUR. Rose carmine with a large light halo.

FRAU ANTON BUCHNER (New). The finest white yet produced; strong grower, producing flowers of enormous size. \$.25.

INDEPENDENCE. Tall, pure white.

LOTHAIR. Clear even carmine, deep crimson eye.

**SELMA.** Soft pink, with large crimson eye.

**SUNSHINE.** Aniline red with crimson eye and light halo.

Mixed varieties, \$8.00 per 100.

# COME AND SEE OUR PEONIES IN FLOWER NEXT YEAR

We have some choice varieties which we have not listed.

They are generally at their best about June 15th to 25th.





# Wellesley Nurseries

Wellesley Hills, Mass.

Tel. 319-W